

## Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 0335

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SG,CF

SUBJ: OFFICIAL VISIT OF CONGOLESE PRESIDENT MARIEN N'BOUABI

REF: DAKAR 0304

BEGIN SUMMARY. PRESIDENT OF CONGO MARIEN N'GOUABI COMPLETED FOUR-DAY VISIT TO SENEGAL JAN 15. N'GOUABI WAS ACCOMPANIED BY VICE-PRIMEMINISTER CHARLES N'GOUOTO-MOKOTO, MIN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DAVID GANAO, AND LARGE PARTY INCLUDING CONGOLESE PRESS. RED CARPET TREATMENT EXTENDED CONGOLESE BY SENEGALESE GOVT MEDIA AND POPULATION. N'GOUABI VISITED SAINT LOUIS FOR LAYING OF CORNERSTONE OF NEW UNIV. (SEE REFTEL), HAD WORKING MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT SENGHOR AND SENEGALESE MINS, AND ADDRESSED MILITANTS OF UNION PROGRESSISTE SENEGALAISE. EACH PRESIDENT SHOWED RESPECT FOR OTHER'S PATH TO SOCIALISM. N'BOUABI'S SPEECHES MAY HAVE STIRRED IMAGINATION OF SENEGALESE LEFT TO SENGHOR'S DETRIMENT, BUT AT SAME TIME, SENGHOR DEMONSTRATED WILLINGNESS TO DIALOGUE WITH A RADICAL, FELLOW AFRICAN LEADER. ON SOUTHEAST ASIA JOINT COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTED GRUNK AND PRG IT ALSO EXPRESSED

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SATISFACTION INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY RECOGNIZING NATIONAL

FACT OF IDNAEL, AND ENDORSED THIRD-WORLD QUEST FOR NEW ECONOMIC ORDER. N'GOUABI CUT IMPRESSIVE FIGURE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN SPEECHES, N'GOUABI CAREFULLY PRAISED SENGHOR AND EMPHASIZED "COMPLEMENTARITY" OF TWO PATHS TO SOCIALISM CHOSEN BY SENEGAL AND CONGO. AT SAME TIME HE PUT GREATER STRESS ON MARXIST-LENINIST STYLE OF SOCIALISM. PRESIDENT SENGHOR RECIPROCATED N'GOUABI'S PRAISE AND ATTITUDE WITH REGARD TO NECESSITY FOR DIFFERENT AFRICAN SOCIALIST SYSTEMS, EMPHASIZING LATTER POINT MORE THAN N'GOUABI. BOTH ON FOREIGN ISSUES AND ON TYPE OF SOCIALISM MOST SUITABLE FOR AFRICA, N'GOUABI MADE MANY REMARKS, ESPECIALLY IN UPS SPEECH, WHICH MUST HAVE APPEALED TO THOSE SENEGALESE ON LEFT END OF POLITICAL SPECTRUM. AT SAME TIME, HE SUCCESSFULLY AND CLEVERLY AVOIDED TOO GREAT STRESS ON DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CONGO AND SENEGAL WHICH MIGHT HAVE OFFENDED HIS HOSTS. SUMMARIES OF N'GOUABI'S REMARKS IN LOCAL PRESS LEFT OUT MORE RADICAL STATEMENTS AND MOST OF HIS CRITICISMS OF FRANCE. SENGHOR, IN TOAST AT DINNER, NOTED THAT CONGO AND SENEGAL BOTH AGREED IT WAS NECESSARY MAINTAIN PRESSURE OF ARMS AND OPTION OF DIALOGUE IN RELATIONS WITH WHITE REGIMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

2. NEITHER PRESIDENT IN SPEECHES MADE ANY ANTI-US REMARKS, EXCEPT FOR FLEETING REFERENCE BY N'GOUABI BEFORE UPS AUDIENCE TO SOME ANTI-PROGRESSIVE COUPS IN AFRICA. WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN "TELEGUIDED BY COLONIALIST POWERS AND CIA." ACCORDING TO CHIEF OF PROTOCOL TRSENEGALESE HAD INFORMED CONGOLESE THAT US AMBASSADOR WOULD BE INVITED TO OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS DURING VISIT AND CONGOLESE ENDORSED THE DECISION. AT VARIOUS EVENTS, PRESIDENT N'GOUABI WENT OUT OF HIS WAY SEVERAL TIMES TO EXCHANGE CORDIAL REMARKS WITH AMBASSADOR AGGREY, BUT THERE WERE NO REFERENCES TO STATE OF US-CONGOLESE BILATERAL REALTIONS.

3. IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE, TWO CHIEFS OF STATE TOOK STRONG ANTI-SAIGON STANCE ON VIETNAM, AND, WITH REGARD  
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CAMBODIA, GAVE EQUALLY STRONG SUPPORT TO SIHANOUK'S GRUNK. REFERENCE TO PALESTINIANS WAS SURPRISINGLY OMITTED FROM PASSGE ON MIDDLE EAST. PRESIDENTS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH FACT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CONSIDERED THAT HENCEFORTH SOLUTION OF MIDDLE EAST QUESTION WOULD INCLUDE (PASSE PAR) RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL FACT OF ISRAEL. ALSO THAT COMMUNITY WANTS PEACE IN REGION ESTABLISHED ON BASIS

OF SECURE AND RECOGNIZED FRONTIERS FOR EACH STATE IN ARE. N'GOUABI AND SENGHOR CALLED FOR INCREASED AID TO AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND PRESSURE ON MINORITY REGIMES TO FOLLOW PORTUGUESE EXAMPLE. TWO CHIEFS OF STATE ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS TOWARDS UNITY IN ANGOLA. THEY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THIRD WORLD EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER. THEY AGREED THAT CONF. OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON RAW MATERIALS TO BE HELD IN DAKAR FEB 3 TO FEB 8 WOULD HELP DEVELOP EFFECTIVE STRATEGY IN SUPPORT OF THIRD-WORLD INTERESTS.

4. ON BILATERAL MATTERS, COMMUNIQUE REVIEWED ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TWO COUNTRIES AT TIME OF SENGHOR'S VISIT TO BRAZZAVILLE LAST FEB, NAMELY, CONCLUSION COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT AND FORMATION MIXED COMMISSION TO SUPERVISE BILATERAL RELATIONS. IN ADDITION, COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED THAT FISHING AND MERCHANT MARINE ACCORD HAD JUST BEEN CONCLUDED AND LETTERS EXCHANGED CONCERNING SITUATION OF SENEGALESE EMIGRES IN CONGO.

5. COMMENT: N'GOUABI IMPRESSED AMBASSADOR AS PERSONABLE, INTELLIGENT, HIGHLY ARTICULATE, SELF-ASSURED AND TOUGH-MINDED. BOTH HIS WELL-WRITTEN PREPARED SPEECHES AND EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS WERE WELL-DELIVERED. EXCHANGE OF VISITS BETWEEN PRESIDENTS SENGHOR AND N'GOUABI PROBABLY RESULTED FROM DESIRE OF SENGHOR TO DEMONSTRATE TO HIS LESS MODERATE FOLLOWERS THAT HE ON GOOD TERMS WITH A RADICAL AFRICAN STATE AND N'GOUABI'S DESIRE TO SHOW HE ON GOOD TERMS WITH MODERATE ONE. SINCE N'GOUABI'S VISIT TO SENEGAL WAS FOLLOWED BY IVORY COAST SOJOURN, IT NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT SENGHOR AND HOUPHOUET ARE SEEKING TO MODERATE CONGOLESE REVOLUTION  
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AND BRING CONGO CLOSER TO FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN MAINSTREAM. HOWEVER, IN SENEGAL, POPULAR AND THOUGHTFUL RECEPTION GIVEN N'GOUABI BY MANY IN HIS AUDIENCES LEFT IMPRESSION THAT VISIT MAY HAVE STIMULATED WISHES OF SOME DISADVANTAGED SENEGALESE TO MOVE CLOSER TO AN AFRICAN SOCIALISM AKIN TO N'GOUABI'S VARIETY.  
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